

### How often should personal fall protection equipment be inspected?

Personal fall protection equipment should be subjected to a pre-use check before each use. In addition to pre-use checks, equipment should be subjected to detailed inspections (which would be known as “thorough examination” for lifting equipment) by a competent person in accordance with a predetermined regime.

Damaged equipment should be taken out of service immediately. Interim inspections might be needed between detailed inspections in situations where the risk assessment has identified a hazard that could cause significant deterioration in the equipment, such as items that are subject to high levels of wear and tear or contamination, including the effects of the marine environment.

Formal inspection procedures should be put in place by employers to ensure that personal fall protection equipment is subject to a detailed inspection at intervals not exceeding six months (or three months where the equipment is used in arduous conditions), and after circumstances liable to jeopardise safety have occurred.

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### References:

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### Bibliography

BS 8437:2005+A1:2012  
Code of practice for selection, use and maintenance of personal fall protection systems and equipment for use in the workplace